

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 remain pending in the application.

Claim of Priority

The Applicants' thank the Examiner for the acknowledgement of the claim for domestic priority to U.S. Pat. No. 6,529,587, filed as U.S. Appl. No. 09/300,109 on April 27, 1999.

Claims 1-20

In the Office Action, claims 1-20 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being obvious over claims 1-18 of U.S. Pat. No. 6,529,587.

Attached hereto is a Terminal Disclaimer which disclaims any terminal portion of a patent issuing in the present application beyond the statutory life of U.S. Pat. No. 6,529,587.

It is respectfully requested that the rejection now be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



William H. Bollman
Reg. No. 36,457

Manelli Denison & Selter PLLC
2000 M Street, NW
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036-3307
TEL. (202) 261-1020
FAX. (202) 887-0336